

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

/069 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:JGBURKE:DR

APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:LGRANT

NSC - M GUHIN (SUBS)

AF/E - E SHIPPY

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R 062122Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 132781

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SENV, KE

SUBJECT: WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT ON
JUNE 5TH AND RELEASED BY THE WHITE HOUSE TO THE PRESS ON
JUNE 6TH. PLEASE PASS THE TEXT TO DR. MAURICE STRONG.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT, IT IS
APPROPRIATE THAT WE JOIN OUR NEIGHBORS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
TO REFLECT UPON EFFORTS BEING MADE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY
OF OUR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT.

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TODAY, THERE IS GROWING RECOGNITION OF MANKIND'S INTER-

DEPENDENCE, OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE'S OTHER HANDI-
WORKS, AND OF THE DANGER TO OUR PLANET WHICH ENVIRONMENTAL
DEGRADATION POSES.

AN ACTIVE CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IS THE FIRST ESSENTIAL
STEP TOWARD RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL

QUALITY. WE IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THE CITIZENS OF
MANY OTHER COUNTRIES; HAVE TAKEN THAT FIRST GIANT STEP,
BUT WE HAVE FAR TO GO.

THROUGH LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS, WE HAVE
ALREADY BEGUN TO REDEEM THE WORKS OF DESTRUCTION WHICH MAN
HAS VISITED UPON THE EARTH FOR GENERATIONS.

WE RECOGNIZE THAT THESE EFFORTS CAN SUCCEED ON A GLOBAL
SCALE ONLY IF EVERY NATION BECOMES INVOLVED. SINCE PARTI-
CIPATING IN THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN
ENVIRONMENT AT STOCKHOLM IN 1972, THE UNITED STATES HAS
JOINED IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOM-
MENDATIONS FORMULATED BY THAT CONFERENCE AND ADOPTED BY
THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM. WE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE DEVELOP-
MENT OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS TO PROTECT THE PLANET,
ITS SETTLEMENTS, AND ITS SPECIES. WE HAVE ENTERED INTO
BILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

AS THE UNITED STATES APPROACHES THE BEGINNING OF ITS THIRD
CENTURY, OUR DESIRE TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY
OF LIFE IN THIS COUNTRY AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD REMAINS
UNDIMINISHED. THIS NATION IS COMMITTED TO STRIVING FOR AN
ENVIRONMENT THAT NOT ONLY SUSTAINS LIFE, BUT ALSO ENRICHES
THE LIVES OF PEOPLE EVERYWHERE - - HARMONIZING THE WORKS
OF MAN AND NATURE. THIS COMMITMENT HAS RECENTLY BEEN
REINFORCED BY MY PROCLAMATION, PURSUANT TO A JOINT RESOLU-
TION OF THE CONGRESS, DESIGNATING MARCH 21, 1975 AS EARTH
DAY, AND ASKING THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION BE GIVEN TO
EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS DIRECTED TOWARD PROTECTING AND EN-
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HANCING OUR LIFE-GIVING ENVIRONMENT.

IN SUPPORT OF THE ACTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, I AM HAPPY ON THIS DAY, WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY,
TO EXPRESS THE DEDICATION AND DEEP CONCERN OF AMERICANS
FOR THE GOAL OF ACHIEVING A BETTER WORLD ENVIRONMENT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENVIRONMENT, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE132781
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JGBURKE:DR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750199-0991
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750672/aaaacoe.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT
ON
TAGS: SENV, KE
To: NAIROBI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006